

A new species of *Pogonoglossus* Chaudoir from Australia

(Insecta, Coleoptera, Carabidae, Helluodinae)

By Martin Baehr

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Pogonoglossus rufopiceus, spec. nov. from a cave in Northern Territory is described. This species is closely related to *P. porosus* (Sloane) and is perhaps a specialized offspring of that species. In addition, *P. porosus* is firstly recorded from Western Australia.

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Introduction

While checking unidentified carabid specimens in the Museum of Victoria, Melbourne (NMV) in 1990, I found a single, unusually reddish species of the genus *Pogonoglossus* that seemed at first glance to represent a new species. After comparison with the other Australian species this first impression proved to be true. Hence the new species is now being described and the description is regarded a supplement to my revision of the Australian *Pogonoglossus* (Baehr 1988).

Specimens of *Pogonoglossus* are still very rare, although the species are fairly numerous. This might be due to a secret or hitherto unknown way of life under bark or in crevices or anywhere else. The present record is also rather unusual, as it is "ex cave".

Measurements

Measurements have been made under a stereomicroscope using an ocular micrometer. Measurements and indices have been taken in the same way as in the revision, tab. 1.

Pogonoglossus rufopiceus, spec. nov.

(Figs 1a, 2, 3)

Holotype: ♀, Ex Cave, Katherine, N. T., 5 Oct.-15 Nov. 1962. W. A. Penman, *Pogonoglossus* sp. Det. B. P. Moore '66 (NMV).

Type locality: Katherine, Northern Territory.

Diagnosis. Species possessing a tooth-like protuberance below eye like *P. porosus* (Sloane), but distinguished from that species by reddish colour, far less well developed suborbital protuberance, smaller, though more protruding eyes with larger orbits, much narrower pronotum, longer elytra, and longer antenna with longer basal segment and more slender median and terminal segments.

Description

Measurements. Length: 8.5 mm; width: 2.95 mm. Ratios. Width of base/apex of pronotum: 1.24; width/length of pronotum: 1.20; width of pronotum/width of elytra: 0.68; length/width of elytra: 1.73; length/width of 10th antennal segment: 2.55.

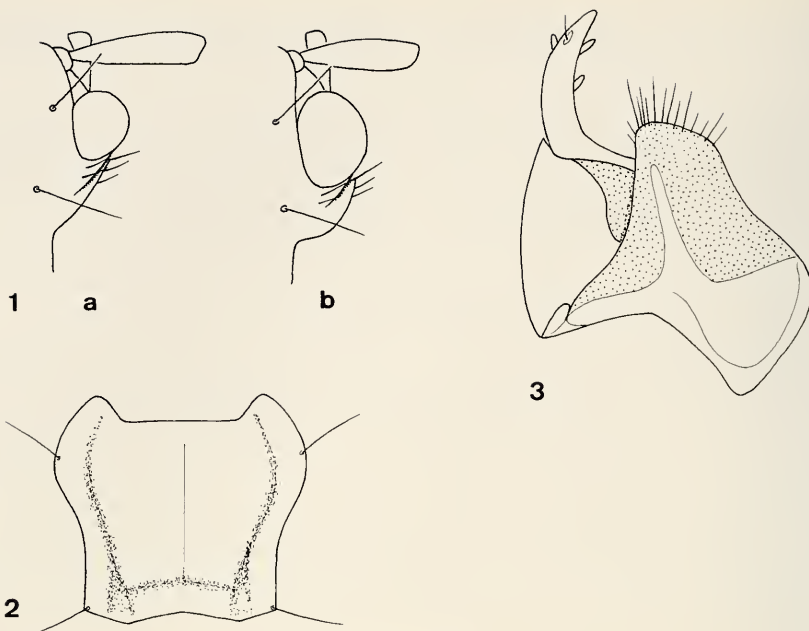


Fig. 1. Right side of head, showing eye size, suborbital tuberosity and curvature, and scapus of antenna. 1a. *Pogonoglossus rufopiceus*, spec. nov. 1b. *P. porosus* (Sloane).

Fig. 2. *Pogonoglossus rufopiceus*, spec. nov. Pronotum.

Fig. 3. *Pogonoglossus rufopiceus*, spec. nov. Female stylomeres and lateral plate.

Colour. Elytra and most of head reddish-piceous. Pronotum, some parts of vertex, clypeus, labrum, mouth parts, antennae, and legs reddish. Lower surface reddish to light reddish-piceous.

Head (Fig. 1a). As wide as pronotum, wide between eyes, posteriorly markedly triangular. Frons with two circular impressions, neck separated by a deep furrow. Eyes rather small, though very convex, laterally far projecting. Orbits large, half as long as eye. Below eye with a protuberance, separated from orbit by a furrow, bearing c. 3 elongate setae at tip. This protuberance far less projecting than eye, hence suborbital curvature barely convex, markedly oblique, and about as long as eye. Mandibles comparatively short, inner border almost straight, only near apex incurved. Palpi moderately elongate. Antenna elongate, scapus elongate, almost as long as width of base of clypeus, median segments $>2.5 \times$ as long as wide. Surface of head sparsely, though rather coarsely punctate and pilose. Microreticulation almost absent.

Pronotum (Fig. 2). Comparatively narrow, widest in anterior third. Apex deeply excised, anterior angles rounded off. Lateral borders anteriorly strongly convex, posteriorly sinuate, near base parallel. Base laterally oblique. Lateral explanation rather wide, lateral borders upturned. Puncturation fairly coarse, moderately dense, pilosity depressed, microreticulation distinct.

Elytra. Elongate, parallel. Apex laterally rounded, medially obliquely obtuse. Striae well impressed, intervals convex, moderately densely punctate in c. 2 rows, punctures rasp-like. Microreticulation distinct, transverse. Surface rather dull. Pilosity dense, depressed. Marginal setae very elongate. Fully winged.

Lower surface. Densely punctate and pubescent. Metepisternum very elongate. Terminal sternite in ♀ on each side with one seta in middle and 3 or 4 setae near apical border.

Legs. Elongate. Vestiture of ♂ protarsus unknown.

♂ genitalia. Unknown.

♀ genitalia (Fig. 3). Stylomere 2 elongate, with 2 small ventral ensiform setae, a dorsal ensiform seta, and a short nematiform seta originating from a groove. Lateral plate strongly sclerotized and at apex densely setose.

Variation. Unknown.

Distribution. Katherine, northern part of Northern Territory. Known only from type locality.

Habits. Largely unknown, holotype collected in a cave during the period of October-November.

Etymology. The name alludes to the rufous colour.

Remarks

Pogonoglossus rufopiceus, spec. nov. is certainly closely related to *P. porosus* (Sloane), namely on account of the same structure and position of the suborbital protuberance. Several different characters of *P. rufopiceus* (e. g. reddish colour, smaller eyes, longer antennae) may refer to the possible cavernicolous habits of this species, and with respect to these characters, *P. rufopiceus* is certainly more apomorphic than *P. porosus*. Other characters, e. g. narrower pronotum, less developed suborbital protuberance, less dense puncturation of elytra, are uncertain with respect to phylogenetic status, or even more plesiomorphic. However, *P. rufopiceus* seems to represent a specialized offspring of the widely distributed *P. porosus* that has probably achieved more specialized habits.

Pogonoglossus porosus (Sloane)

(Fig. 1b)

This species is widely distributed in eastern Queensland from about Gayndah in the south to at least mid Cape York Peninsula, and in the northern parts of Northern Territory west to a line from Darwin to just west of Katherine (Baehr 1988). Now there is a new record from Windjana Gorge in the southern Kimberleys that extends the range of the species far into northwestern Australia and demonstrates that this species is distributed across the whole tropical belt of northern Australia.

New record: 1 ♀, AUS/W.A./Umg. Windjana G., 8.91, leg. Roppel (Coll. M. Baehr).

Key to the Australian species of genus *Pogonoglossus* Chaudoir

For identification the key to the Australian species of my revision (Baehr 1988) is herein updated to include the new species.

1. Orbits behind or below eyes with a distinct tuberosity and/or a tooth. Base of pronotum laterally perceptibly oblique 2.
- Orbits behind or below eye without tuberosity or tooth. Base of pronotum laterally almost straight. Northeastern Queensland *inarmatus* Baehr
2. Orbits **behind** eyes with a tooth or tuberosity 3.
- Orbits **below** eyes with a tooth or tuberosity separated by a furrow 4.
3. Larger species, 8.7-10.4 mm long. Orbits markedly swollen, almost as long as eyes, posteriorly gently curved, laterally projecting beyond eyes. Lateral borders of pronotum widely explanate. Antenna elongate, terminal segments >2 x as long as wide. Eastern Queensland *inflaticeps* (Sloane)
- Smaller species, 7.2-8.7 mm long. Orbits less swollen, c. 1/2 of length of eyes, posteriorly almost transverse, laterally much less projecting than eye. Lateral border of pronotum narrow, not explanate. Antenna short, terminal segments c. 1.5 x as long as wide. New Guinea; Cape York Peninsula, North Queensland *parvus* Darlington
4. Dark piceous species. Pronotum wide, ratio width/length >1.25. Eyes larger, though laterally less projecting, longer than suborbital curvature; suborbital tuberosity laterally much more projecting; suborbital curvature very convex (Fig. 1b). Antenna shorter, scapus distinctly shorter than width of base of clypeus, terminal segments <2.25 x as long as wide. Eastern Queensland, northern parts of Northern Territory and of Western Australia *porosus* (Sloane)
- Reddish species. Pronotum narrower, ratio width/length <1.20. Eyes smaller, as long as suborbital curvature, though laterally more projecting; suborbital tuberosity laterally much less projecting; suborbital curvature oblique, barely convex (Fig. 1a). Antenna longer, scapus almost as long as width of base of clypeus, terminal segments >2.5 x as long as wide. Northern part of Northern Territory *rufopiceus*, spec. nov.

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References

Baehr, M. 1988. Revision of the Australian species of the genus *Pogonoglossus* Chaudoir (Insecta: Coleoptera: Carabidae: Helliudinae). - Invertebr. Taxon. 2: 961-972